

March 29, 2022

MEDICAID ALERT

TO: All Providers

SUBJECT: Approval of South Carolina's Appendix K Amendment Request for Temporary Rate Increases

As part of the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' (SCDHHS) ongoing response to the state and federal states of emergency related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), SCDHHS submitted a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to amend multiple waivers with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K. The request was approved Jan. 20, 2022, and will temporarily:

- Raise payment rates for multiple home and community-based waiver services;
- Increase individual cost limits for the Community Supports (CS) waiver;
- Increase service limits for waiver case management (WCM); and,
- Add the group option for employment services for the Head and Spinal Cord Injury (HASCI) waiver.

SCDHHS' [request](#) is available for review on SCDHHS' COVID-19 webpage along with [CMS' approval letter](#).

The flexibilities that were approved are effective on or after the identified effective dates in the Appendix K template through no later than six months after the expiration of the federal public health emergency, unless SCDHHS determines they should sunset at an earlier date. A summary of the flexibilities can be viewed in the [Appendix K amendment request](#). SCDHHS will submit formal waiver amendments to implement the temporary rate increases on a permanent basis.

The amendment request applies in all locations served by the waiver for anyone impacted by COVID-19. A variety of COVID-19-related provider resources, including updated responses to frequently asked questions, are available online at www.scdhhs.gov/covid19. Providers with additional questions related to the guidance issued by SCDHHS should contact COVID@scdhhs.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid program.

